



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### **TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE February 6, 2009**

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### **House Bill 6266 - An Act Concerning The Practice of Acupuncture**

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The Department of Public Health provides the following information with regard to House Bill 6266.

- Acupuncturists are currently licensed by the Department of Public Health.
- This bill would protect the title "acupuncturist" from being used by anyone who is not licensed by the Department.
- Although this bill would not impact the scope of practice of other licensed health care practitioners such as chiropractors who are currently authorized to perform acupuncture, it clarifies that such individuals would not be able to use the title "acupuncturist" in describing their practice.
- This bill does not give the Department the authority to take disciplinary action against unlicensed individuals who may be using the title "acupuncturist" unless they are actually practicing acupuncture without a license. **Additional fiscal resources would be necessary** if the Department is expected to investigate complaints of this nature.
- Finally, the last sentence of the proposed bill, which attempts to address the practice of other licensed health care professionals, appears to be duplicative of subsection (g) of Section 20-206bb of the general statutes.

Thank you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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